

IOWA CHILD ADVOCACY BOARD
STATE BOARD MEETING
Conference Room 318 & 319
Lucas State Office Building
Des Moines, Iowa
Friday, December 13, 2019
12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

State Board Members Present:

Marc Elcock
Judge William Owens
Beth Myers
Wayne Schellhammer
Dr. Angela Stokes

Staff Present:

Kerry Brennan
Amy Carpenter
Lesa Christianson
Jim Hennessey
Shirley Hoefer
Sherri Ripperger
Steffani Simbric
Jennifer Slife

Guests Present:

Dr. Elizabeth Weinstein

Call Meeting to Order; Roll Call of Board Members

Myers calls the meeting to order at 12:17 p.m. with a quorum present.

Approval of Minutes for Previous Meetings

Judge Owens moves and Schellhammer seconds a motion to approve the September 2019 Iowa Child Advocacy Board meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Management Report

Exhibit 1. Hennessey reviews the October - November 2019 Budget Report. Hennessey reviews the spending plan adjustments from previous month. Friends agreed to fund ICAB with additional funds to bring the Friends total funding to \$170,203. We would like to increase the amount of money that we get from grants.

FY21 Budget is already in process. We were not asked to submit any information to DIA for the Department of Management to use for our budget. The Governor has directed that this will be a status quo budget, so DIA submitted the same budget as we did for FY20. The Governor's office did not have budget hearings this year. At this time we do not know if there will be an official presentation by DIA to Admin and Regs.

The Guardianship and Conservatorship Reform bill has been passed and is in the process of being implemented. Judge Witt would like our organization to be in charge of putting together the court visiting program and operating it. We told them we would need an appropriation to be able to do this. They would like to find an agency to do it at no cost. There was a seminar at University of Iowa Law School where Hennessey made a small presentation about what we can do and how it could serve as a model. He also indicated that he would be willing to help as a volunteer to put together the concept for someone to use. National CASA standards has a provision that the core responsibilities and expectations for what we do does not include and actually excludes the possibility of bringing some other program that is not related to serving abused and neglected kids under the court's jurisdiction into our program area.

CASA Program Report

Exhibit 2. Carpenter states that we are slowly increasing the number of assigned advocates and number of families served. Our coach numbers are staying strong. The marketing campaign did produce an increase in applications for our program. The Policy and Procedure committee is focusing on the National CASA Association Local Program Standards. These standards will be released late January 2020. Carpenter reviews program issues for the quarter and 2020 planning. She states the focus of 2020 will be increasing program capacity through staff development. This will be done by the Coach Engagement Project and Staff Delineation of Duties Project lead by Carpenter. Aligning program policies and staff performance with NCASAA standards and expectations is also a focus for the upcoming year.

Volunteer Survey Summary

Exhibit 3. Carpenter was asked by the board to provide a summary of the volunteer survey. She reviewed her report pointing out that the outcome of the survey was quite positive. A big challenge for our agency is having a diverse pool of volunteers.

FCRB Program Report

Exhibit 4. Hoefer states that we will not know the full impact of Family First until we get through this fiscal year. She is keeping a close eye on the numbers month to month. One of the main focuses of this year has been looking at the quality of the FCRB reports. The statewide results of the assessment process were very

low. Analysis and formulating conclusions from the baseline data will be done by the FCRB Program Committee at its December meeting. They will develop strategies to improve the overall quality of the review process and FCRB reports. Providing updated training for facilitators and board members is an essential first step in improving the quality of the review process. The committee is also working with DHS to review and update the case selection plans for each local board.

ICAB 2019-2024 Strategic Plan

Exhibit 5. Weinstein reviews the plan to make sure all are in agreement. A few wording changes were made to the definitions. A Goal Tender did a brief summary of their goals and strategies. After some discussion a few wording changes were made to clarify performance measures and strategies. (See final Exhibit 5.) Weinstein would like to see board member involvement and how staff will interact with the board on the plan. Simbric states that once staff are assigned to operational plan, she will share the information with the board so the Goal Tenders will know who the staff contact person is. The strategic plan will be reviewed at each board meeting.

Schellhammer moves and Owens seconds a motion to accept the Strategic Plan as redrafted. Motion passed unanimously.

Legislative Day Consideration

Documents from the “Day at the Capitol” 2017 were referenced by Hennessey. There is a lot of work that needs to be done to prepare for something like this. There is very little chance that we would impact legislatures this year on funding or policy changes. Now is a good time to make contact with new legislatures and start laying the groundwork for a legislative day next year.

Review of Future Meeting Dates

Next meeting scheduled for Friday, March 13th from 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Lucas Building Rooms 319 & 320. Future meetings: June 12th, 2020.

Stokes motions and Shellhammer seconds the meeting adjourned. Meeting adjourns 2:45 p.m.

ICAB Minutes Prepared By: _____
Sherri Ripperger

ICAB Minutes Approved On: _____

CAB Minutes Approved by Child Advocacy Board Vote

Approved By:

Beth Myers, ICAB State Board Chair

Steffani Simbric, ICAB Administrator

Exhibit 1: October - November 2019 Month End Budget

Exhibit 2: CASA Program Status Report

Exhibit 3: Statewide CASA Volunteer Survey Summary

Exhibit 4: FCRB Program Status Report

Exhibit 6: 2019 ICAB Annual Report